

LONG TERM PAVEMENT PERFORMANCE PROGRAM DIRECTIVE



For the Technical Direction of the LTPP Program



Program Area:	Monitoring	Directive Number:	D-19
Date:	May 10, 2000	Supersedes:	N/A
Subject:	Cessation of "Night Time" Manual Distress Surveys		

An increasing number of highway agencies involved in the LTPP program are no longer willing or able to provide traffic control during daylight hours for purposes of manual distress surveys. This has led to an increase in the number of "night time" manual distress surveys performed by the RCOCs. In turn, that increase has led to concerns over the (1) safety of RCOC personnel performing the surveys and highway agency personnel providing the traffic control and (2) quality and consistency of the data being collected.

Accordingly, effective immediately, all planned "night time" manual distress surveys shall be canceled and no further "night time" surveys shall be scheduled. If a highway agency is not able to or willing to provide traffic control during daylight hours for one or more sections, the affected RCOC will work with appropriate FHWA LTPP personnel (i.e., COTR and person responsible for distress operations) to schedule an automated distress survey of those sections.

There may be cases where an automated distress survey cannot be scheduled on a timely basis, but it is critical that the survey be performed. For example, RCOC personnel may find out that a test section in their region is scheduled for rehabilitation within a month. Whether the test section is to remain in the program under a separate experiment or going out-of-study, it is essential that a final distress survey be performed on that test section prior to rehabilitation. However, it may not be possible for the automated distress vehicle to get to the site in question on time. In such cases, the RCOC will work with appropriate FHWA LTPP personnel to obtain written approval for conduct of a "night time" manual distress survey.

Questions concerning this directive should be addressed to the FHWA LTPP Team staff member responsible for distress operations, with a copy to the LTPP Technical Support Services Contractor.

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